

1. (Amended) A method of processing an Internet site name comprising:

retrieving a regular expression stored at a Domain Name Server; and

performing a comparison between a first Internet site name and the regular expression at the Domain Name Server to identify an Internet Protocol address for multiple similar site names.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said regular expression has a format  $\text{\textasciitilde}d\{10\}$.X.Y where  $\text{\textasciitilde}d\{10\}$  represents a string of ten numbers, X represents a sub-level domain and Y represents a top-level domain.$

6. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said regular expression has a format  $\text{\textasciitilde}[0-9]+$.X.Y where  $\text{\textasciitilde}[0-9]+$  represents a string of numbers, X represents a sub-level domain and Y represents a top-level domain.$

7. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said regular expression has a format  $\text{\textasciitilde}d\{10\}$.Z where  $\text{\textasciitilde}d\{10\}$  represents a string of ten numbers, and Z represents a geographically oriented top-level domain.$

8. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said regular expression has a format  $\text{\textasciitilde}[0-9]+$.Z where  $\text{\textasciitilde}[0-9]+$  represents a string of numbers, and Z represents a geographically oriented top-level domain.$

9. (Amended) An apparatus for processing an Internet site name comprising:

a Domain Name Server adapted to retrieve a regular expression stored therein and perform a comparison between a first Internet site name and the regular expression to identify an Internet Protocol address for multiple similar site names.

10. (Amended) A set of instructions residing in a storage medium, said set of instructions capable of being executed by a processor to implement a method of processing an Internet site name, the method comprising:

retrieving a regular expression stored at a Domain Name Server;

and

performing a comparison between a first Internet site name and the regular expression at the Domain Name Server to identify an Internet Protocol address for multiple similar site names.

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14. (Amended) The set of instructions of claim 13 wherein said regular expression has a format  $\text{^}\backslash\text{d}\{10\}\text{\$.X.Y}$  where  $\text{^}\backslash\text{d}\{10\}\text{\$}$  represents a string of ten numbers, X represents a sub-level domain and Y represents a top-level domain.

15. (Amended) The set of instructions of claim 13 wherein said regular expression has a format  $\text{^}[0-9]\text{+}\text{\$.X.Y}$  where  $\text{^}[0-9]\text{+}\text{\$}$  represents a string of numbers, X represents a sub-level domain and Y represents a top-level domain.